

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TUNIS 04688 030631Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 /032 W
-----007902 030636Z /14

P 301228Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO USDOC WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 1664
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS TUNIS 4688

ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BTIO, EMIN, TS
SUBJ: EARLY WARNING: CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES
NEEDED FOR PHOSPHATE PROJECT

REF: 10 FAM - 164

1. TUNISIAN STATE-OWNED COMPAGNIE DES PHOSPHATES DE GAFSA, WHICH OPERATES PHOSPHATES MINES, IS CONSIDERING CHANGING MINING TECHNIQUE AT ITS MAJOR SEHIB MINE IN SOUTH FROM UNDERGROUND TO OPEN PIT METHODS.
2. COMPANY TELLS US IT INTENDS TO HIRE A US ENGINEERING FIRM TO PREPARE A STUDY ON (A) OPEN PIT MINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND (B) KINDS OF EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR SUCH MINING OPERATION.
3. COMPANY WILL ISSUE TENDER IN ABOUT ONE MONTH FOR SELECTION OF ENGINEERING FIRM. WE WILL SEND COPIES TO COMMERCE. FINAL DECISION IS TO BE MADE IN FALL.

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COMMENT: THIS IS MAJOR TRADE OPPORTUNITY WHICH COULD ENABLE US SUPPLIERS OF OPEN PIT MINING EQUIPMENT, SUCH AS DRAGLINES, EXCAVATORS ETC. TO BECOME VIRTUALLY SOLE SUPPLIERS FOR THIS KIND OF MINING.
WE SUGGEST COMMERCE WHICH, SPONSORED MINING SEMINAR HERE IN MARCH, ALERT US ENGINEERING FIRMS SPECIALIZING IN PHOSPHATE MINING OF UPCOMING TENDER. US MINING

EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS SHOULD WRITE AND SEND LITERATURE
IN FRENCH IF POSSIBLE TO : MR. NEJIB LAHOUE, DIRECTEUR
DU DEVELOPPEMENT, COMPAGNIE DES PHOSPHATES DE GAFSA,
METLAOUI, TUNISIA.
MULCAHY

NOTE BY OC/T: TELEGRAM DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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